Good News For Homemakers

By Shirley W. Walton
Extension Agent

A Preview of Fall Fashions

Hemlines and jackets are shorter for fall 1979. Skirts will be slim with waistlines defined and shoulders emphasized. What do we have? We have a throw back to the fashion silouette, popular in the 50's, and highlighted by the appearance of the suit.

New textures give fabrics greater importance. Blends are plentiful. The most popular fabrics this season are the natural fabrics such as wool, cotton, and silk. These will be blended with polyester and other manmade fibers to provide a warm feel as well as an easy care look.

Suit fabrics include tweeds, cords and corduroy; twills, gabardine and herringbone replace the plain weave poplins. Crepe will have the brushed look for added softness and femininity.

Embossed nylon knits have the texture of velveteen and smooth leather. New finishing techniques with velour include twill stripes, sound-wave patterning or flowers inside diamond shapes. My, aren't we going to get colorful and snazzy looking!

Chenille in wool, rayon and cotton or wool and polyester is going to be popular as is cotton terry toweling. Terry and chenille are also combined into unique fabrications which incorporate the surface interest of both. Shaggy terry, a new look between terry and chenille is featured in polyester and blends of polyester with other man-made fabrics or wool. Poodle cloth is a novel material which is heavy and a spongy woolen type coating material with a nappy surface rolled into little tufts or nubs. Again, this was featured back in the 50's.

Shine and iridescence are everywhere in knits and wovens. The iridescent look is achieved by embossing 125-500 lines per inch on fabric surface to give it a silk-like luster. Two different color yarns may be used or a combination of matte and shiny yarns. Vibrant colors go it alone or include black accents.

A return to the ensemble or costume look of the 50's boasts slim and simple suits, dresses with jackets and two-piece dresses and jumpers. Collars will be small, rounded, or v-necked. In suiting, many jackets are collarless. Shoulder interest includes padding, and shirring, flanges, puffs and buttons. Nipped-in waistlines are accented with sashes, ties and belts.

The jacket highlights fall coordinates, whether it completes a suit or provides a mix'n match possibility. Jackets will be short and boxy, fitted or casually draped with one-button center closure or side-closure. Another look is the wrapped jacket. Accents in jacket fashioning include piping, some in leather and belts which cinch the jacket into shape.

Skirts are slim, straight or pleated, some with decorative side buttons, and some with slits. Dresses are popular and on hand in a wide range of polyester knits, crepes, and jerseys. Blouses are the perfect complement to the tailored suit and are fashioned in soft, feminine colors and fabrics.

Pants are ankle-hugging and straight. The mid-calf length is a novel-type pant for the fall. Pants are featured in corduroy, twill, sailcloth and silk shantung plus a new nylon warpknit resembling smooth leather. Skinny jeans surface with stretch and shine.

The fall of 1979 will be a colorful one. Neutral tones move toward warm golds and curry. Black and plum are favorites. Freshest on the fashion scene are the blues, magenta, hot pink and in the deep tones we find navy, wine, raisin, and forest green. Muted bright colors, mallard blue and teal will also be popular.

The season's defined fashion appeals through soft, feminine suit dressing which combines natural fabrics with synthetics for warmth and shine. For a smart yet practical wardrobe, consider care instructions on and fabric content of fashions as well as mix'n match approaches which can stretch your clothing dollar.

Be sure to read the care labels when purchasing fabric. Also, read carefully the care labels on all ready-made clothing.

If you have a homemaking question or problem, you may call the Appomattox County Extension Office, 352-8244, or write us at P. O. Box 488, Appomattox, Va. 24522.

Homemakers, have a good week.

Recipe Of The Week

Dot's Squash Pickle

8 cups sliced yellow squash (small ones)
2 cups sliced onions
1 tablespoon salt
½ cup diced green pepper
1 cup vinegar
1⅝ cups sugar
½ teaspoon celery seeds
½ teaspoon mustard seeds

Combine squash and onion, sprinkle with salt and let stand one hour.Combine green pepper, vinegar, sugar, celery and mustard seeds - bring to a boil. Add squash and onions and return to a boil. Pack in jars and cover with vinegar mixture and seal. (Yields 2 quarts)

Thanks to Mrs. Dot Wilkerson for sharing this delicious recipe with us.

ELON'S KEEN AGERS ON TOUR! Pictured above is the happy crowd who recently took a three-day tour to the Pennsylvania Dutch Country. The tour took them to such interesting spots as Lancaster, Pa., the Hershey Chocolate Factory, rose gardens, and the Hershey School for Boys. Included in the tour was a shopping spree on Vanity Fair and Moss Streets. Next year the Keen Agers will be taking a week long tour through Canada!

New ACHS Choral Director To Offer Piano Lessons

Miss Shelby Shelton will offer piano lessons in her home beginning immediately. She will teach students of all levels, beginners and up.

Miss Shelton studied four years at Longwood College in Farmville where she received a Bachelor of Music Education degree. After teaching at Cumberland High School, where she was Band/Choral Director, she went on to receive her Master's of Music Degree in Theory and Composition at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Illinois.

Those interested in studying piano with Shelby should call 352-7894 or come by Village Square Apts. No. 8, Spout Spring, Va.

Gary Compton, owner-operator of Concord Service Center on Route 460 in Concord, is shown with his daughter, Christy Compton, who works with her father as cashier and gasoline attendent.

Concord Service Center Awarded Major Muffler Dealership

The Concord Service Center, Gary Compton owner and operator, has been awarded the Major Muffler Dealership for this area.

Compton has made a sizable investment in order that he will be able to serve the community and surrounding areas in automotive service needs.

Major Muffler is a nationwide chain of Exhaust Systems Dealerships. The Concord Service Center is able to offer a lifetime warranty with muffler exhaust pipes and will customize dual exhaust systems for almost any car or truck. The Major Muffler warranty will be honored at any Major Muffler Dealership.

Compton, his wife and three children, reside in the Concord community. He has 18 years experience in general automotive repair service with three years serving the people of the Concord community. He is a former employee of Virginian Ford and prior to that he had experience in Ohio with Chevrolet and Lincoln-Mercury dealerships.

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Special Needs Children In Need Adoptive Parents

A majority of Virginia's children who are legally free and waiting for adoption have no permanent home. According to the Virginia Department of Welfare, these children have no home as a result of their special needs.

Children have a special need if they are:

* 5 years of age or older.
* a minority child of any age.
* handicapped (physically, mentally, or emotionally).
* brothers and sisters who are to be placed together.

At present, there are 990 adoptive homes approved in Virginia and 554 Virginia children who are legally free and waiting for adoption, but 76% of these children, 419, have special needs.

"Most families are looking for an ideal child. Specifically, they want a bright-eyed, healthy, bouncing, baby boy," Patricia Sykes, Supervisor of the Adoption Reports and Resources Section at the Welfare Department said.

"Today with birth control and family planning information readily available, the liberalized abortion laws, and the number of unmarried women keeping their children, there just aren't as many ideal children available," Sykes said.

According to Sykes, it is difficult to find permanent homes for children with special needs since many potential parents who apply to Virginia agencies are not interested in these children.

On a regional basis, there are 142 children waiting in Tidewater with 150 adoptive homes approved; in Northern Virginia 69 children with 229 homes approved; in Richmond 129 children with 202 homes approved; in Roanoke 74 children with 128 homes approved; in the Valley 36 children with 89 homes approved; in the Southwest 45 children with 110 homes approved; in Lynchburg, there are 58 children with 82 homes approved.

The Virginia Department of Welfare is making a concerted appeal to find adoptive homes for these special children through the use of public service announcements on radio and television stations and utilization of the Welfare Department's Adoption Resource Exchange (AREVA), a multiple listing of children available for adoption in Virginia.

AREVA has often proved useful in matching up a special child in one corner of the state with a suitable home in another area. Subsidized adoptions are available in some cases to assist in the cost of caring for the child.

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ASCS TODAY

By Tom Conrad

Soviets Offered 10 Million Metric Tons of Wheat; No. 1980 U.S. Wheat Set-Aside - The Soviet Union will be able to buy up to 10 million metric tons of U.S. wheat in the next 14 months, Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland has announced.

Bergland also announced:

- U.S. wheat producers will be eligible for farm program benefits in 1980 without setting aside or diverting acreage.
- The 1980 wheat loan rate will be $2.50 a bushel, up 15 cents from the rate in effect the past two years.
- Administrative or legislative steps will be taken to discourage planting wheat on fragile land.

Bergland said Under Secretary Dale E. Hathaway met recently with officials of the Soviet government to review USSR import needs and U.S. grain supplies.

Based on that review, Bergland said, Hathaway informed the Soviets they may buy up to 10 million tons of wheat through September 1980. Up to 2 million tons of that amount may be contracted and shipped during August and September 1979, the last two months of the current year of the two countries' agreement.

The five-year agreement allows the Soviets to buy a total of 8 million tons of corn and wheat each year without consultation and requires them to buy at least 3 million tons of each.

"In offering additional wheat there was the mutual understanding that 5 million tons of corn may be purchased for delivery during the fourth year of the agreement," Bergland said. "The possibility of additional purchases of U.S. corn during the fourth year of the agreement will be discussed during the regular meeting of the two governments in early October. By that time, we will have more precise information on the size of this year's corn and other feed grain crops and the Soviets will have a better estimate of their import needs.

"Our assessment of the wheat import needs of the Soviet Union and our other customers, and supply prospects in the U.S. and other wheat exporting countries, concludes there is no need for a wheat set-aside in the U.S. next year," he said.

As a result, all wheat producers will be eligible for loans, the farmer-owned reserve and target price protection.

The national program acreage for wheat will be 70 million acres for 1980, up from the 67.6 now indicated to balance production and use in 1979. In 1980, those who plant no more wheat than was planted, set-aside or for other reasons was considered to have been planted to wheat in 1979 will have full target price protection. Those who exceed this acreage will be subject to the allocation, factor that can cover from 80 to 100 percent of the acreage planted to wheat.

The $2.50 national average loan price will be up from $2.35 a bushel for the previous two years. The minimum release price for the farmer-owned reserve during the 1980 crop year will be $3.50 a bushel and the "call" not less than $4.38 a bushel. These changes, Bergland said, mean producers will receive a higher level of price protection and market stability through the reserve.

Bergland said that based on the formula in the Food and Agriculture Act of 1977, the 1980 target price is expected to be between $2.95 and $3.20 per bushel. Preliminary data indicate a 1980 target price of $3.07 per bushel. The 1979 target price was $2.98 but because of last year's 20-percent set-aside, it was adjusted to $3.40. The final 1980 target price will be announced by March 15.

In implementing the 1980 wheat program, Bergland said the department is taking measures to ensure sound conservation practices are continued.

"We do not want to see fragile lands brought into wheat production in 1980. Acreage not traditionally used for crop production will not be added into a producer's normal crop acreage for subsequent years," he said. "In addition, we are reviewing our regulations concerning normal crop acreages and we may amend them to encourage farmers to follow good farming practices. If necessary, we may also seek legislative changes to encourage continued good farming practices as a condition for farm program benefits."

Bergland said department officials have begun a review of the reserve program for wheat and other grains for possible administrative or legislative changes to make the program function more smoothly and in line with its objectives of protecting both farmers and consumers. A detailed review of target prices for all target price commodities is also underway. Should administrative or legislative changes be necessary in that system of income protection, these will be recommended, he said.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH WEEK IN PROGRESS AT ELON

Elon Baptist Church in Pamplin is currently involved in a special week of spiritual growth. Leading in the special services is the Rev. Wayne Varner, minister of the College Hill Baptist Church in Lynchburg. The special emphasis is designed to encourage and stimulate commitment and growth in all areas of life.

The services will be held nightly this week, beginning each evening at 8 p.m. Everyone is invited to come and catch the last several evenings of this opportunity to grow. A nursery is provided each evening.

Register Now For Railroad Festival Beard Growing Contest

Registration has begun for the Seventh Annual Historic Appomattox Railroad Festival Beard Growing Contest. Registration dates are August 13 through 25, and you may sign up at many of the downtown businesses, including the Barber Shop, Marshall's Department Store, Appomattox Hardware, Poe Hardware, Coleman & Sons, Appomattox Farmers Supply and Elliott's. Remember, if you already have a moustache, you do not need to shave it off to participate. This contest is being sponsored by the Downtown Merchants Association and prizes of $100, $50 and $25 savings bonds will be awarded the winners.

Sign up now and see what kind of beard you can sport by October 14, 1979 when the winners will be chosen during the Seventh Annual Historic Appomattox Railroad Festival.

Virginia Fibre Reports Weekly Wood Purchase

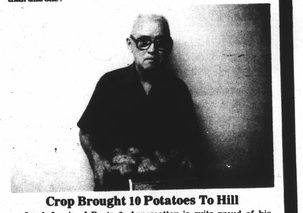
Listed below is the total dollar volume of wood purchased by Virginia Fibre Corporation of Riverville for the week ending August 5, 1979. Purchases are listed by counties.

Albermarle	4,505.98		
Amelia	3,000.09		
Amherst	8,213.97		
Appomattox	4,235.43		
Augusta	376.61		
Bedford County	1,812.33		
Buckingham	14,062.23		
Campbell	4,157.34		
Charlotte	6,939.00		
Cumberland	5,493.98		
	1,659.51		
Goochland	366.49		
Henry	940.69		
Mecklenburg	3,126.74		
Nelson	8,868.19		
Pittsylvania	2,525.21	Rockbridge	452.85
Powhatan	3,939.08		85,104.77
Prince Edward	9,801.85		
Prince William	627.20		

We feel this information is of interest to our readers.

John Mann Gets 2½ Pound Potato

Mr. John Mann is shown with a two and one-half pound Kennebec potato from his home garden in Shipman. Gardening for over 50 years, he said this was the largest potato he has ever seen. Have any of you gardeners brought in potatoes any larger than this one?



Crop Brought 10 Potatoes To Hill

Jacob Lewis of Route 2, Appomattox is quite proud of his potato crop this year. He planted three rows of Kennebec potatoes this year from last year's seed and each hill brought ten potatoes. Mr. Lewis has been gardening for a number of years and his garden always yields a good crop.

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